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# FCC ANNOUNCES GSA'S APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF THE NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING COUNCIL CHARTER THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

(CC Docket No. 92-237)

The General Services Administration (GSA) has renewed the charter of the North American Numbering Council (NANC or Council) through September 27, 2009. The Council will continue to advise the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) on rapidly evolving and competitively significant numbering issues facing the telecommunications industry.

In October 1995, the Commission established the NANC, a federal advisory committee created pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., App. 2 (1988), to advise the Commission on issues related to North American Numbering Plan (NANP) administration in the United States, including local number portability administration issues. The original charter of the Council was effective on October 5, 1995, establishing an initial two-year term. Amended charters were filed on October 5, 1997, October 5, 1999, October 5, 2001, October 5, 2003, and September 26, 2005, each renewing the term of the charter for an additional two years.

Since the last charter renewal, the Council has provided the Commission with critically important recommendations regarding number administration, such as the development and recommendation of interim and permanent guidelines for pseudo Automatic Number Identification administration. In addition, the Council developed and recommended technical requirements for a request for proposals associated with a new Pooling Administrator (PA) contract. The Council also provided detailed evaluations of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) and the PA. The Council will continue to evaluate the NANPA's and the PA's performances annually.

Moreover, the Council is presently considering and formulating recommendations on other important numbering-related issues that will require work beyond the term of the present charter. The term of the Council's renewed charter begins September 27, 2007 and runs through September 27, 2009. The renewed charter and current membership list are attached.

The value of this federal advisory committee to the telecommunications industry and to the American public cannot be overstated. Telephone numbers are the means by which consumers gain access to, and reap the benefits of, the public switched telephone network. The Council's recommendations to the Commission will facilitate fair and efficient number administration in the United States, and will ensure that numbering resources are available to all telecommunications service providers on a fair and equitable basis, consistent with the requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deborah Blue, Special Assistant to the Designated Federal Officer at (202) 418-1466 or Deborah.Blue@fcc.gov. The address is: Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street, SW, Room 5-C162, Washington, DC 20554. The fax number is: (202) 418-2345. The TTY number is: (202) 418-0484.

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#### CHARTER FOR THE NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING COUNCIL

### A. The Committee's Official Designation

The official designation of the advisory committee will be the "North American Numbering Council" (NANC or Council).

#### B. The Committee's Objectives and Scope of its Activity

The purpose of the Council is to advise the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) and to make recommendations, reached through consensus, that foster efficient and impartial North American Numbering Plan (NANP) administration. The Council will advise the Commission on numbering policy and technical issues, initially resolve disputes as directed by the Commission, and provide guidance to the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA), the Local Number Portability Administrator (LNPA), and the Pooling Administrator (PA) as directed by the Commission.

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Council shall assure that NANP administration supports the following policy objectives: (1) that the NANP facilitates entry into the communications marketplace by making numbering resources available on an efficient, timely basis to communications service providers; (2) that the NANP does not unduly favor or disfavor any particular industry segment or group of consumers; (3) that the NANP does not unduly favor one technology over another; (4) that the NANP gives consumers easy access to the public switched telephone network; and (5) that the NANP ensures that the interests of all NANP member countries are addressed fairly and efficiently, fostering continued integration of the NANP across NANP member countries.

### C. <u>Period of Time Necessary for the Committee to Carry Out its Purposes</u>

The Commission will review the accomplishments and activities of the Council to determine whether, after two years, this charter should again be renewed and the Council should continue as a Federal Advisory Committee.

### D. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports

The Council will report to the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau at the Federal Communications Commission

## E. Agency Responsible for Providing Necessary Support

The Commission will provide the necessary staff support for the Council and the facilities needed to conduct meetings. If the Commission does not have meeting facilities available, private sector members will provide facilities. Private sector members of the Council will serve without any government compensation and will not be entitled to travel expenses or per diem subsistence allowances.

# F. <u>Description of the Duties for Which the Committee is Responsible</u>

The general duties of the Council are to gather and discuss information necessary to develop recommendations to the Commission related to the attainment of the objectives stated under (B). Under the direction of the Commission, the Council will provide oversight of matters relating to numbering administration, including the development of industry guidelines. Specific duties will include developing and recommending technical requirements for the selection of neutral third-party numbering administrators (*e.g.*, NANPA, LNPA). To aid the Commission in its oversight responsibilities, the Council will also prepare periodic and final reports for the Commission.

### G. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Staff Years

The estimated Commission staff dedicated to the Council is the equivalent of 1.7 full time employees. The estimated annual cost to the Commission of operating the Committee is \$217,000. The Commission will not pay for private sector staff.

### H. Membership

Members of the Committee will be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission in consultation with appropriate Commission staff. Members will be selected to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to address effectively the issues to be considered by the Committee. Members will represent various sectors of the telecommunications industry, as well as North American Numbering Plan member countries, state regulators, and consumers. Industry representatives will be selected from local exchange carriers, wireless carriers, equipment manufacturers, cable service providers, and industry trade associations.

Members will be appointed either as representatives of the telecommunications industry, or as representatives of consumers of telecommunications. Committee members will not serve as "Special Government Employees."

# I. <u>Estimated Number and Frequency of Committee Meetings</u>

We expect that there will be no more than six Council meetings per year.

#### J. Charter's Termination Date

This charter will terminate on September 27, 2009, prior to which the Commission may seek its renewal.

### K. <u>Date Original Charter Filed</u>

October 5, 1995.

## NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING COUNCIL (NANC) Federal Advisory Committee September 2007

**Designated Federal Officer (DFO)** 

Marilyn Jones

Special Assistant to the DFO

Deborah J. Blue

**Alternate DFO** 

Michelle Sclater

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